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**CIA Subcommittee of House Appropriations
6 December 1963**

The Director stated he was extremely worried about the situation in Vietnam pointing out that the government of Vietnam could not get congealed and there was some dissension within the ruling forces. He commented there was not full rapport between the leaders and indicated that civilians were not fully brought into the government at that time. Those who had been brought in had unclear authority. The war effort had not been improved by the new government and Viet-Cong activities had increased. The DCI noted that his concern with the situation did not mean that it was in danger of going down the drain or that it was desperate. On the other hand, he indicated he saw little forward thrust. The DCI indicated that the U. S. should not go in with its own forces and fight this war, that U. S. strategy to train South Vietnamese to do their own fighting is sound. On the other hand, the U. S. could not simply pull out of South Vietnam and should "play the hand out." With respect to the then current Vietnam leaders, it was indicated that many of them are responsible and with considerable abilities but reiterated there is evidence of developing tensions and rivalries.

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